

other colonies is purely imaginary. This being the case, allow me to ask you whether it is consistent with Christian charity that the inhabitants of these colonies should, from selfish fear of a danger which cannot be proved to be real, insist upon closing against the unhappy men who have incurred punishment for their crimes the only refuge open to them.

As Christians it seems to me that the inhabitants of Victoria, even if it could be shown that there were some real risk of inconvenience to themselves, ought to be ready to incur it, rather than exclude some

Victoria, even if it could be shown that there were some real risk of inconvenience to themselves, ought to be ready to incur it, rather than exclude all

I must further observe that some of the facts you mention seem to prove that the social evils you describe in such strong terms as existing in England

are to be traced to other causes rather than to the arrival of a few "expatries" from Western Australia. You say that "Victoria are a miscellaneous body of people from various nations, and a miscellaneous whatever may be the nationality, the drive, the nation are sure to abound." This is the consequence of the richness of your gold-fields, and is a heavy drawback from the colony. It is the cause of the colony being derived from the discovery of gold. It is the cause to prevent men of bad character, from all parts of the world, flocking to the place where such prizes may be gained; and it is the cause of the change of name (which you mention as so common among them), to conceal their former character. Even if more "expatries" were to reach Victoria from Western Australia, under undergoing the present impression of the colony, discipline, is it likely that they would lower the moral standard of such a mixed collection of adventurers as you describe? Is it not even possible that they might be found to have come from other quarters than those of which you

There is another point, which deserves to be still more seriously considered. You say in your letter "we are wretchedly governed." This is true, and henceforth I shall have no doubt that the social condition of the colony will be improved, yet, though there is much that is bad in your present government, there is also much that is good, and so much energy of character that, with the advantage of good government, this young society could hardly fail to rise up in no very long time to its full maturity of age, in no way less than that draws its origin. Now the "wretched" government of which you complain with so much reason is the natural result of the chaotic state of the colony given to the colony by Parliament, which was never wisely made by its inhabitants, and which

the Home Government, more unwisely still, not say
permitted but encouraged. I do not mean to say that
the Home Government gave the Australian colonies
by Parliament in 1850 were so good that they might
have been amended; but I am convinced that the
changes which have been actually made in their
Constitution and in these colonies were greatly for the more
and that they have proved a great benefit to the colonies
and that they have proved a great benefit to the colonies
they were adopted) eminently calculated to foster all
that is bad, and to check the development of all
that is good in the character of the inhabitants of Aus-
tralia. I do not mean to say that the colonies
rightly differ from me as to the extent of the
which I have said, and which I have said, and which I have said,
upon Victoria by the ascendancy of ultra-
democratic feelings and passions. But the cry
now raised there against transportation to Western
Australia is doing more to excite the feelings of
this spirit, which derives additional strength
from every triumph that it gains. I would, therefore,
submit to you that those who wish well to Victoria
might do more to promote its future welfare by
directing their attention to the removal of the
than by encouraging what I must be permitted to call
all the ignorant and unreasoning clamour which has
been raised against transportation.

In conclusion, I have only to add that you would greatly oblige me by making the opinions I have expressed in this letter as widely known as you can among your friends and fellow-colonists, as I am anxious to have it understood by the inhabitants of Victoria that, if in any place in Parliament I have resisted the Government, their wishes as to the discontinuance of transportation to Western Australia, I have done so, not because I feel indifferent to their welfare, but because I am convinced that in the matter they are acting under a great delusion, and am asking for what would be of no use to them, if they obtained it, while it could not be granted without injustice to others.

I have the honour to be, dear Sir, your very obedient servant,

Geo. Stephen.

To the Editor of the Herald.

Sir,—In the present state of the country the humblest among us may be permitted to give expression

I have recently visited several of the neighbouring colonies, and observed with pain the feelings of irritation—almost dislike—shown towards New South Wales. Our Government, our deficit, policy, want of enterprise, and depressed trade are consequently commented upon; and perhaps in some of these matters we may not contrast favourably with the other colonies. At first it looked like jealousy; but a moment's reflection tells me that beyond a fine

With resources such as our colony possesses, as we all know—minerals—coal, not in abundance, but superabundant—cereals, live stock and grasses, over an extent of country almost beyond idea—we are ill-fitted by the approach to the colonies of our neighbours. Can capital think over this anomalous state of things, it strikes me that something to do with *capital* lies at the root of the evil.

Adam Smith has been quoted *ad nauseam*, but when he published his grand discovery that labour, not labour is the source of wealth and nations, and that the power of the nation is measured by the capital, how capital punts labour into mystery. Some imagine that population means labour: this is a delusion. Without capital population is *not* labour. I remember, twenty years ago, our barracks full of immigrants who were fed at the public expense, and gladly allowed to be a suppleant to the labour of the colony. They were without capital. The prosperity of a country does not depend on population but the means of employing it.

It must surely be the end of wise Government in guard with jealousy the capital of their people. It is not the Government's business to say to the poor man—*to draw capital by every honourable means into the country*—knowing that without capital to employ him, the poor man remains a poor man still. Is it not in this way that a government becomes the poor man's best friend?

I am aware that hundreds of thousands of the capital of New South Wales have been leaving in investment, wisely or unwisely, elsewhere—a trifling amount has passed through my own hands. The Government has not asked me to put this question to myself, "had I twenty thousand pounds to invest in developing the resources of these colonies, should I give New South Wales the preference?" I unhesitatingly say no. I would not, because she does not offer the security for my investment.

Finance land is a means of investment. Were offers to arrive and tender our Government £20,000 for land, he would be told a block of 320 acres was certain conditions is all that could be allowed; he

desirous of founding an estate, raising a wealthy family, and acquiring a standing and position in the country. Should we not precisely the Acres we should foster? Should we not place facilities in the way of such a man, whose capital is so much needed to work our abundant resources?

In the Nelson and Canterbury Provinces of New Zealand any amount of capital can be invested in land, though the country is so small—in New South Wales it is, in impossibility—no capital is therefore repelled

Meanwhile I remain, your obedient servant,

district, where it has escaped the rust, has generally turned out unusually heavy, and of superior quality. Mr. Kingston, of the Phoenix Flour Mills, showed us

a sample yesterday, which grew at Jerry's Plains, and several hundred bushels of which were purchased by him in the course of the week. It is of the "golden drop" variety. The grains are very plump and clean, and indeed the sample might rival the best Adelaide

"MUST HAVE A ROW SOMEHOW.—When a poor Irishman was once bound over to keep the peace towards all her Majesty's subjects, he left the officer exclaiming, "Well, then, God help the first farmer I meet with!"—*Blackwood.*

on what terms the quarrel could be adjusted, and since that time we have proclaimed in every public

on what terms the quarrel could be adjusted, and that time we have proclaimed in every public paper our desire for peace. Insolently our ever effort has been met. The Vice-President of the Confederation has sent a passport to the North, which his object was to negotiate the demand, which all wars must be terminated. The door was rudely shut in our faces. Intervention and recognition by foreign States, so long anticipated, have proved to be a mere mockery. The North has shown, which you can hope to gain independence and a honourable peace, and that is by uniting with harmony, energy, and determination in fighting those great battles and achieving those great victories which shall reach the West. We have defended our rights, and the Yankee nation that has tried to invade them. (Applause.) With every Confederate victory our stocks rise, the foreign market, that touchstone of European sentiment, will value the noble and patriotic sacrifices the public mind abroad you are taking on step forward, and bringing foreign nations one step nearer your aid in recognising and lending you friendly support, whenever they are asked that, intervention or recognition by the Confederation. We maintain itself. Does anyone believe that Yankees are to be conciliated by terms of concession? Does any man imagine that we can conquer the Yankees by retreat? Does any man think that the North will be so weak to make Spain's civil war to whip them? Can you win whip them if all the men capable of bearing arms will do their duty by taking their places upon the standard of their country, before the victory of their hero, and this, I believe, is in your power. I believe that the West will have the confidence in its ranks with those who are already there, we shall not battle in vain, and our achievements will be grand, final and complete. Is this a time to ask what the law demands of you?—I inquire whether or not you are prepared to take the West? I have the confidence in your hero, your father, the Whip of the Revolution, fought in that war which secured your birthright, their armies were not gathered by asking who could be forced into the field, but "Who are able to fight?" No man was too old and no boy too young, if he had the spirit to fight, he was able to fight. In the days of the Revolution the boy left his paternal roof only to return to its blackened ruins. He grew to manhood among its struggles; and may not your country claim similar services from the youth of the present day? Will there be any man among you of your sires. Say not that you are unequal to the task, for I believe that our people are even better than were our honoured ancestors. They have fought in the most glorious struggles, and there are fewer who are lukewarm in the cause than there were in the days of the Revolution. What a glorious reflection it is that wherever the tide of war has rolled its devastating wave over the land, just then do you find ever present the noble and valiant, strengthened as it were, by vicissitudes, and ever upon the march to share his last lot with the soldier who is fighting for our rights. A plan of negotiation has been offered for consideration—a plan of negotiation by States. Well, gentlemen, I think that the terms are too good to negotiate. In the first place, there was no constitutional power to do so. In the second place, Mr. Lincoln has said that he will not negotiate with them, unless they can control the army, and they can only control the army by the aid of your transvoluntaries attempting to enter into a treaty with the Government they have instituted. But suppose this were possible, what are the terms offered? If you will acknowledge your crime, lay down your arms, and give up the Government, and the Government will be punished, then you will have permission to retire together with your negroes upon the terms under which Mr. Lincoln will be graciously pleased to receive them. If you will not do this, you are over which he presides. If there be a man within the sound of my voice who contemplates such a proposition, I pity him from the bottom of my heart. My ally says that he is not worth of the dividing line. He says that he is not worth of the dividing line. He is not fit to exist among the men who are now perilling their lives in the cause in which we are engaged, for he who is so slavish cannot be trusted with the guardianship of the widows and orphans of the soldiers who are fighting for the cause. If you are returned from that army from which we have had the saddest accounts—the army of Tennessee—and I am able to bear to you words of good cheer. That army of Tennessee is the strength of the far Atlantic. It has risen in to the north, and it is now looking to the front. So far as I am able to judge, General Hood's strategy has been good, and his conduct has been gallant. His eye is now fixed upon a point in the distance, where he was assailed by the enemy. He hopes soon to have the enemy in his hands. He has been gallant, and to fix it where he cannot hold it. And if but a half—any one-fourth—of the men to whom the service has a right will give place to the men who are now fighting, the army will escape from a defeat or a disaster. I have no more hope, in view of all the contingencies of war, with all the confidence which I found in the army, that within thirty days that army which has so boastfully proclaimed its superiority in the heart of the Confederacy will be the march of the army of the Tennessee River. That our army retreated far was but a natural precursor of a despondency which spread itself over the country; but as I approached the army, until at last I found in the army, the hope increased. I found that the army was not so much as I had found it. General Beauregard, so well known to you all, is going there with a general command, which will enable him to concentrate all the troops that can be sent to the front, and to put the army in a position to be of good cheer. I, therefore, say, be of good cheer. I say, be of good cheer. Intelligence will soon reach you. (Applause.) But, my friends, if it be otherwise—if I suffer reverses, it is what is to be expected from the fortunes of war. I say, be of good cheer. I say, be of good cheer. I shall have reason to anticipate from your conduct becoming the occasion, and shall look to you to redress your misfortunes, to rise in the face of disaster, and resolve to succeed, determined that you are battling for the cause of the South. You have seen your Fort Sumter, where was first given to the breeze the flag of the Confederacy, still stands. The honour of the State has not been dimmed in the struggle, and the confidence of the people is sustained by the thought that when they are no more than the thought that that honour with which she commenced the war, and have accumulated that greatness and glory which will make her an example of all that is chivalrous and manly. I say, be of good cheer. I say, be of good cheer. 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TRANSPORTATION TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

(To the Editor of the Daily News.)

SIR,—The Australian colonies have excited a good deal of interest during the past ten or twelve months in consequence of their determined opposition to the continuance of transportation on certain occasions acknowledged by the Government. I am happy to say a considerable number of influential persons in London and in different parts of the kingdom have also acknowledged the justice of the complaints we make, and have strongly recommended that the evil be removed as soon as possible. It is, however, to be regretted that a general ideal of ignorance still prevails respecting this important question amongst those who take no interest in colonial affairs, and even amongst those whom we might expect to be intelligent interest in what goes on in our British colonies.

Thus we are repeatedly told we are dictating to England what she should do by her convicts, that the number who escape or go to the other colonies can scarcely be ascertained, and that we are interfering in a matter which does not concern us, which concerns Western Australia only, and that our objections are frivolous. If this were the case I can only say the objections would never have been made, and that we should have been content to let the Government of Western Australia be, in reality, transportation to the Australian colonies. It has been proved by official documents belonging to Western Australia that while comparatively few convicts escape to the colonies of the east, yet a considerable number of the other colonies, either before or after the expiration of their sentences. This would give us an influx of at least 300 per annum, and this is the small number which some good, easy-going people tell us we are well for gentlemen who live in England, surrounded by all the comforts, conveniences, and security of life which it is possible to have, to think and speak in this way, but if they formed part of a wide-spread population of a million and a half, where, from the very nature and extent of the country, it is difficult to apprehend criminals, I am satisfied they would not consider it trivial to object to an annual influx of three or four hundred more of the same kind.

For it is to be regretted that as a general rule (not without exception, I admit) such men are morally better after they become free than they were before, and not a few of them are much worse as well as more numerous. It is a subject of much consideration that it should be a subject for serious consideration with thoughtful men about to emigrate, to ascertain how far they would be justified in taking their families to a country where they would be exposed to such influences. I have no doubt that I believe those influences were likely to be perpetuated. We might naturally suppose that England would rejoice to see her colonies increase in population, wealth, and intelligence, and that she would not be enough to thank for the progress, and that she would work to the very verge of their young life. I may not, therefore, reasonably inquire, is it wise or prudent of her to cast a stumbling-block in the way of those who wish to go to the Australian colonies, a stumbling-block which may be a great hindrance to their operations in places where they are not known, and will find their way to our cities and to our gold-fields and render both life and property insecure, as they have done and are still doing.

There is another aspect of the question which is not unimportant, at least from a colonial point of view. It may, perhaps, apply more to the older colonies than to the others, but it is to some extent applicable to all. In the colony of South Wales, our penal code was much more severe than it is at present, and numbers were sent out for political or trifling offences. Many who were thus sent turned out well, became useful citizens, and acquired property and respect, and were looked upon with respect. Yet there was a kind of caste feeling which could not then be avoided, and which men have been very annoying to them and to their families. It is by no means desirable that such feelings should be revived, and it is to some extent impossible it can be otherwise while convicts continue to pour in from Western Australia, and while the agitation against transportation continues. The continuance of the system is, therefore, a great source of complaint, and they are not alone in this.

There is no unfriendly feeling towards Western Australia. The eastern colonies would rejoice in its legitimate prosperity; nor would they attempt to interfere with her in this matter, if she could only keep her peace and not make a poor show of her power to have; but this, it has been repeatedly proved, is impossible. A few industrious quiet men may get married and settle down, but the worst men, the restless spirits, who are anxious to return to the colonies, and who are not content with their operations in places where they are not known, will find their way to our cities and to our gold-fields and render both life and property insecure, as they have done and are still doing.

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How our police can be expected to be a good fighting force, is quite unable to conceive. They are rallied at by the country press, and shot down by the ruffians whom they are sent to encounter; but the blame of their failures and the guilt of three deaths being justly to the Government. The men are trained to cut a good figure on horseback—to make handsome military salute—nay, like Mr. Squeers's pupils, learn "the broadsword exercise if required." But to use the weapons on which their efficiency—nay, their own lives—will depend, they are *not* taught. Vain is the unanimous expression of public opinion—vain the urgent dictates of common sense, and the sad lessons of experience. Central pipelay

The seeded natives are said to have gone to the great meeting at Rangitoto, in the centre of the island, when the question of peace or war, of Christianity or *Pai Māhori* is to be decided. The spirit of fanaticism abroad may yet be productive of most marked results, as it seems to bind the natives more into one nation than any former thing has done. We shall probably yet hear more of the new faith than we were to hear.

There is a great stir and a stiff cause, much dissatisfaction both here and in Otago, as it practically divides the lion's share of increased taxation upon these two provinces. The Otago people are entirely concurred with, and the Government has decided a return of the territory for political separation of the islands.

The Rev. Mr. MORRISON moved the first resolution as follows:—"That the report of the Auxiliary to the Church Society which has now been read be adopted and that the following be the officers and committee for the present year:—President, the Very Rev. the Dean; treasurer, G. K. Ingelow; secretary, Mr. G. Neale; committee—Messrs. H. Allen, S. Cooper, J. A. Bird, F. Bliss, H. Ingram, T. C. Fuesadale, G. Lewis A. Stuart, W. Speer, A. J. Lewington, G. N. Whiting." In adopting a report, they were called upon to adopt the work to which the report related.

higher faculties of the heart. With regard to the weather classes, a system of education might be carried on in quite a different manner from that pursued in our schools. A wealthy man could summon to his aid the most suitable teachers of every branch of knowledge in which he wished his child to be taught; and the child, being under the eye of his parent, would have every advantage of religious and moral training, thus rendering it comparatively immaterial what might be the religious qualifications of the teachers of secular knowledge whom the parent employed. But the difficulty

1984, which will leave at the credit of profit and loss account, after the payment of the dividend, the amount of £220,969 10s. 4d.

W. H. ELDON, Deputy Chairman

The report was read and adopted.

The Hon. Alexander Campbell, Esq., M.L.C.C. was elected a director of the company in the room of the late Walter Lamb, resigned.

Messrs. M. Mossall and R. Binnie were elected as auditors for the current year.

The Chairman informed the meeting that

Prince Arthur was present, also Duke of Cambridge and the Prince of Wales, the Prince of Wales and the Commander-in-Chief entered into familiar conversation with the general, while the Strattons were almost exclusively occupied with Mrs. Stratton and her baby. The interview lasted about a quarter of an hour, when their royal highnesses retired, highly delighted with the visit, while the general and family were less so, having with the honour paid them. It is understood that General Stratton is a distinguished Freemason, will shortly attend a grand lodge to be held by the grand master. The private

